

## CLAIMS

We Claim:

1. An MMP regulator comprising a zinc chelator and a TIMP-derived peptide.
- 5 2. The regulator of Claim 1 wherein the zinc chelator is selected from the group consisting of EDTA, EGTA, DTPA, CDTA, HEDTA, NTA, IDA, PSDE, AFTA, citric acid, salicylic acid, and malic acid.
3. The regulator of Claim 2 wherein the zinc chelator is IDA, PSDE, or AFTA.
- 10 4. The regulator of Claim 1 wherein the zinc chelator is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 9 and 10.
5. The regulator of Claim 1 wherein the peptide comprises SEQ ID No. 1-3.
- 15 6. The regulator of Claim 4 wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11.
7. The regulator of Claim 1 wherein the peptide contains at least one cysteine residue.

8. A method of treating chronic or acute wounds comprising administering an MMP regulator comprising a zinc chelator and a TIMP-derived peptide.

9. The method of Claim 8 wherein the zinc chelator is selected from 5 the group consisting of EDTA, EGTA, DTPA, CDTA, HEDTA, NTA, IDA, PSDE, AFTA, citric acid, salicylic acid, and malic acid.

10. The method of Claim 9 wherein the zinc chelator is IDA, PSDE, or AFTA.

11. The method of Claim 8 wherein the zinc chelator is selected from 10 the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 9 and 10.

12. The method of Claim 8 wherein the peptide comprises SEQ ID No. 1-3.

13. The method of Claim 12 wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11.

15 14. The method of Claim 8 wherein the peptide contains at least one cysteine residue.

15. A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an MMP regulator, wherein the MMP regulator comprises a zinc chelator and a TIMP-derived peptide.

16. The composition of Claim 15, wherein the composition is in 5 topical form.

17. The composition of Claim 15, wherein the composition is in the form of a lotion, ointment, cream, gel, stick, spray, paste, mousse, solution, dispersion, emulsion, solid, and liposome.

18. The regulator of Claim 15 wherein the zinc chelator is selected 10 from the group consisting of EDTA, EGTA, DTPA, CDTA, HEDTA, NTA, IDA, PSDE, AFTA, citric acid, salicylic acid, and malic acid.

19. The regulator of Claim 18 wherein the zinc chelator is IDA, PSDE, or AFTA.

20. The regulator of Claim 15 wherein the zinc chelator is selected 15 from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 9 and 10.

21. The regulator of Claim 15 wherein the peptide comprises SEQ ID No. 1-3.

22. The regulator of Claim 21 wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11.
23. The regulator of Claim 15 wherein the peptide contains at least one cysteine residue.

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